Stipends for ASHA workers

1321. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision to pay a stipend of Rs. 500/- in addition to incentives to ASHA workers has been implemented;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how many ASHAs have been trained and provided with the requisite kits?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Mission Steering Group (MSG) of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), in its fourth meeting on 28th January 2009 had approved, in principle, the payment of monthly honorarium of Rs.500 to ASHA along with performance incentives subject to approval by the Ministry of Finance. In response to a reference, the Ministry of Finance did not support the proposal and pointed out that it runs contrary to the approach of performance linked remuneration adopted by the department earlier and the rationale for proposed change in policy is not justified. Hence the ASHA continue to receive only performance linked incentives as per the approved Framework for Implementation of NRHM.

(c) As per the state reports, 6.77 lakh ASHA have been trained in first module and 4.66 lakh ASHA have been provided with drug kits.

Vans for mobile hospitals

†1322. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made by Government for health services in rural, tribal and backward areas;

(b) the details of vans provided by Government for mobile hospitals Statewise; and

(c) the reasons for not providing vans to Uttar Pradesh for mobile hospitals till date?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The health services in rural areas are provided through a network of 146036 SCs, 23458 PHCs and 4276 CHCs across the nation as on March, 2008.

(b) With the objective to take healthcare to the door step of the public in the rural areas, especially in under-served areas, Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) are funded un National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The number of districts where MMUs are working is given in the Statement. (*See* below).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The need for MMU is assessed and reflected by the State Governments including Uttar Pradesh in their Annual Programme Implementation Plan (PIP). Funds are released to State Governments after appraisal and approval of the State PIP by National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC). Approval for procurement of Mobile Medical Units by Government of Uttar Pradesh was given in FY 2008-09 as well as FY 2009-10. However, procurement and day to day maintenance of MMU is the responsibility of concerned State Governments.

Statement

Progress Under NRHM as on 31.08.2009

Sl.No.	State	No. of District where MMU working
1	2	3
1.	Bihar	12
2.	Chhattisgarh	
3.	Himachal Pradesh	1
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
5.	Jharkhand	24
6.	Madhya Pradesh	50
7.	Orissa	0
8.	Rajasthan	34
9.	Uttar Pradesh	0
10.	Uttarakhand	13
11.	Arunachal Pradesh	16
12.	Assam	23
13.	Manipur	9
14.	Meghalaya	7
15.	Mizoram	9
16.	Nagaland	11
17.	Sikkim	4
18.	Tripura	4
19.	Andhra Pradesh	17
20.	Goa	2
21.	Gujarat	25

1	2	3
22.	Haryana	6
23.	Karnataka	29
24.	Kerala	7
25.	Maharashtra	0
26.	Punjab	16
27.	Tamil Nadu	29
28.	West Bengal	0
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0
30.	Chandigarh	1
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
32.	Daman and Diu	1
33.	Delhi	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0
35.	Puducherry	2
	TOTAL	354

Increase in maternal mortality rate

1323. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that maternal mortality rate has been constantly increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of maternal mortality rate during the year 2008-09, State-wise; and

(d) the steps Government has taken to reduce maternal mortality rate in the country during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) No. As per the Sample Registration System (SRS) data released by the Registrar General of India (RGI), the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) for the country has come down from 301 per 100,000 live births in the years 2001-03 to 254 per 100,000 live births in the years 2004-06. Since the estimates for MMR requires large sample size, so RGI releases these estimates only periodically. The comparative details of state-wise estimates for MMR as released by RGI is placed in statement (*See* below).